

COUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC General Military Information

25X1

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED PREPARED 20 March 1953

25X1

REFERENCES PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS 25X1This is UNEVALUATED Information

25X1

1. At 1:45 p.m. on 14 February 1953, 12 to 15 trucks occupied by troops; 3 x 57-mm AT guns, 2 heavy AT guns and 1 field kitchen were seen en route from Rosslau to Dessau. At 5:30 p.m., 10 trucks occupied by troops, were seen en route from Ross-lau to Dessau. At 5 p.m. on 20 February, 20 trucks and an undetermined number of field kitchens. and 4 x 57-mm AT guns were seen passing through Rosslau, proceeding toward Meinsdorf. At 5:30 p.m., 7 T-34/85 tanks, were seen passing through Rosslau, coming from Dessau and proceeding toward the training area northeast of Rosslau. At 6 p.m., they were followed by 7 T-34/85 tanks, and at 6:30 p.m., by about 15 trucks occupied by troops and towing a total of 7 guns and 1 field kitchen. 25X1
2. On 16 February, 6 SP guns and an undetermined number of T-34 and JS-tanks were detrained at the Luebben freight sta-tion and left for the Jaeger Kaserne. ² 25X1
3. At 1:30 a.m. on 27 February, about 60 trucks were seen in Gotha, coming from the direction of Eisenach and proceeding toward Goldbach-Sonneborn. Six 57-mm AT guns, 3 x 120-mm mortars, 3 x 37-mm AA guns and 5 field kitchens were seen with the trucks, 40 of which were occupied by an average of 12 men. Motor vehicle were identified. At about 2 p.m., 6 trucks towing 1 x 57-mm AT gun; 4 trucks, each occupied by about 20 soldiers; and 4 tank trucks were seen en route in the same direction. At about 9:30 a.m., 10 trucks, some of them occu-pied by troops and and others were seen en route from the direction of Eisenach. ³ 25X1
4. On 28 February, an exercise in which infantry as well as artillery par-ticipated began in the area of Kobitzschwalde, west of Plauen - Gefell, on the zonal border. On 2 March, about 190 trucks occupied by infantry-men were seen in the training area. On 5 March, the exercise was still under way. ⁴ 25X1

20 March 1953

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

724

SECRET

-2-

25X1

5. At 6 p.m. on 28 February, a troop train carrying 6 JS-3 tanks [redacted] 6 armored scout cars, and 12 to 15 trucks was seen passing through Weimar, coming from Erfurt and proceeding toward Weissenfels. 5 A railroadman stated that the boxcars which had been converted for troops prior to 15 February will be re-converted. [redacted] About 100 railroad cars of the 25C previously assembled there were at the Weimar freight station. [redacted] an enlargement of the telephone installations in Mohra was scheduled. [redacted] 190 telephone poles would be required. Captain K. zin (fnu) was chief of the Kech office. [redacted] troop units, allegedly engineers, had moved into the Buchenwald concentration camp during the preceding weeks. On 3 March, trucks [redacted] were seen en route to Buchenwald. 7 25X1
6. On 7 March, tank and infantry units were seen in exercises in the Gross Naundorf-Reichenbach-Oberlichtenau area, southeast of Koenigsbrueck. The tanks included T-34 and T-34/85 tanks [redacted] Radio truck [redacted] was identified. A JS-1 tank [redacted] was seen in Oberlichtenau. 8 25X1
7. On 6 March, about 150 to 170 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, 5 T-34 tanks [redacted] and 1 tank chassis were entrained at the Halle freight station. The unit had come from the Luftnachrichten Kaserne and left toward Erfurt. Motor vehicle [redacted] were identified during the loading. 9 On 8 March, JS-3 tank [redacted] was detrained at the freight station and left for the Luftnachrichten Kaserne. Prior to 10 March, the Luftnachrichten Kaserne was occupied by about 1,500 to 2,000 troops who wore red-bordered black and, a few, black-bordered black or black-bordered crimson epaulets. The troops engaged in formation drill. Motor vehicles [redacted] were seen en route to the installation: [redacted] 25X1
1. [redacted] 25X1
2. [redacted] Comment. Compare with observations [redacted] of exercises of the 9th Mecz Div in the Cottbus-Welzow area. [redacted] 25X1
3. [redacted] Comment. According to motor vehicle [redacted] unidentified units of the 819th Gds Army. [redacted] 25X1
4. [redacted] Comment. Reports [redacted] tend to indicate that an exercise of elements of the 39th Gds Itz Rifle Div stationed in Plauen and the 220th Hv Tank St Regt stationed in Glauchau took place in the Plauen-Schleiz area from 3 to 6 March. [redacted] 25X1
5. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] the shipment belonged to the 220th Hv Tank St Regt. It may be identical with shipment [redacted] which went from Chdruf to Weissenfels. [redacted] 25X1

SECRET

SECRET

-3-

25X1

6. [] Comment. Compare with a pertinent order and its cancellation. 25X1
7. [] Comment. The 19th Indep Gds Engr Bn of the Eighth Gds Army has been carried in Weimar-Buchenwald. A shipment of this battalion had gone to Bad Koesen on 10 January 1953. 25X1
8. [] Comment. It is believed that exercises of the 11th Gds Tank Div have been under way in this area since mid-January. 25X1
9. [] Comment. Probably a tank firing detail of the 21st Gds Mecz Div which was loaded for Lossa.
10. [] Comment. Provided that the information on the occupation of the Luftnachrichten Kaserne is approximately correct, it would indicate that large elements of the 21st Gds Mecz Div again left the post. However, there are no other indications for this assumption.

SECRET